



West Bank Business Association

1420 Washington Ave South #2

Minneapolis MN 55454

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thewestbank.org - members: wbba.thewestbank.org

Lot A Redevelopment - Ad Hoc Meeting

Tuesday July 18, 2019

Red Sea Bar & Restaurant

2:00pm

Present: Russom, Yusra, Ryan, Hodan, David, Sharon, Merrie, Jamie, Ted, Doris, Barry, Amano, Emily, Abebe, Fartun, Bosteya, Rod, Zev, Yohannes, Ali, several additional residents and businesses

Please sign into the sign-in sheet. This will be used to send out notes / updates.

Agenda

I. Greetings, Introduction (5 minutes)

II. Brief recap of updates and meetings thus far (5 minutes)

a) CR NRP meeting where this was discussed with council

b) We met on July 2 to discuss concerns / ask questions

c) Letter was sent from WBBA to City re: concerns and requests

d) Letter was sent from CR NRP to City

e) We have received a response from CPED they are working on answers

Additional notes from Emily/ CPED

- The city did letters to questions

- They plan on following most of the criteria that was set in RFP request from 2012

- Working on a response to our letter

- At the end of the day the city wants this to serve neighborhood needs

- Likely will be a mixed use development

- (Request again for information that led to the concept and vision as it stands)

III. Next Steps

a) Timeline

Emily / CPED

- RFP will go out likely this fall, this has slowed down

- 6 month to 1 year negotiations with developer

- Group recommends to city council that more than one proposal be required

Additional concerns / questions

- Residents are not hearing updates on this. How are residents being contacted?
- Buses in the neighborhood and youth traffic - how will am and pm dropoff and pickup time be planned for? Who will have the liability for this?
- Developer / and a concern expressed about discrimination and past discriminations
- A question if the mayor has been fully informed on community concerns
- A request for added green space
- NRP / Residents don't know how to be engaged, a missed connection there
- A request for transparency throughout the process
- "Our concerns are probably your concerns, why not w/ us instead of against us?"

b) Actionables

IV. Impact Mitigation / Conversation (10-15 minutes)

- a) Interim parking solutions (inventory / discussion)
- b) Signage
- c) Marketing
- d) Technical assistance (retention available)
- e) Cashflow / Funding / financing

Business needs for interim parking / construction (Brainstorming)

- Alternative routes for buses, cars, and access to businesses - with ample signage
- Wayfinding / signage (this is a general need)
- "Business Open During Construction" signage
- Specifications to the businesses that are welcome in this space (will it be a global marketplace?)
- Gardening / need for green space
- Mitigation on Cedar Ave and how construction can happen without an unreasonable influx of truck traffic
- Surveys / info to businesses
- Discussion of forgivable loans and possible relocation money for businesses that need it.

Next meeting day / time - Proposed: Thurs Aug 1, 10:00am, Red Sea